

Management's Discussion and Analysis of
Financial Condition and Results of Operations of
SBL Holdings, Inc.

Subject to Notice to Investors

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The financial information included in the following discussion and analysis of the Company's financial condition and results of operations is presented on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles in the United States ("GAAP").

SBL Holdings, Inc., together with its subsidiaries ("we", "our", "SBLH", or the "Company"), is a life insurance holding company organized under the laws of the State of Kansas. Its primary insurance subsidiary, Security Benefit Life Insurance Company ("SBLIC"), is a Kansas stock life insurance company that was initially organized in 1892. Through SBLIC, we conduct business in the District of Columbia and every state except New York, and in New York we conduct business through our subsidiary First Security Benefit Life Insurance and Annuity Company of New York ("FSBL"). We offer life insurance policies in 49 states, through our indirectly owned subsidiary, Everly Life Insurance Company ("Everly Life").

Business and Profitability

The Company's business principally consists of spread-based fixed index annuities ("FIA") and fixed rate annuities, fee-based variable annuities and retirement plan products (*i.e.*, mutual fund custodial). The Company's strategy is focused on growing its spread and fee assets under management ("AUM") and earning returns by managing net investment spreads and investment and product risks. The Company's profitability depends in large part upon its amount of AUM, the net investment spreads the Company earns on policyholder account balances, its ability to manage its investment portfolio to maximize returns and manage risks such as interest rate changes and defaults or impairment of investments, its ability to manage interest rates credited to policyholders and costs of the options purchased to fund the index credits on our FIAs, its ability to manage the costs of acquiring new business (principally commissions to producers and premium bonuses credited to policyholders), and its ability to manage operating expenses. The Company generates fee-based revenue from its variable annuity and retirement plan products, where the customer takes the investment risk and the Company earns a specified fee based on the level of AUM, as well as other administrative fees.

After discontinuing sales of life insurance products in 1997, the Company made the strategic decision to reenter the life insurance market in 2021. Our goal is to diversify our business, acquire younger clients and provide innovative financial solutions as clients move through life stages. We seek to do so through Everly Life.

The Company has a non-controlling minority interest in SkyRidge Cayman Holdings, LLC ("SkyRidge Holdings"), which is the ultimate parent company of SkyRidge Re Limited ("SkyRidge Re"), representing approximately 23.8% of its capital and 9.9% of its voting power. SBLIC manages the funds withheld assets relating to the ceded liabilities under an agreement with SkyRidge Re. Security Benefit Business Services, LLC ("SBBS"), an affiliate and related party of the Company, provides certain services to SkyRidge Holdings and its subsidiaries. As of March 31, 2025, the Company has net business ceded based on statutory reserves of \$9.1 billion to SkyRidge Re, and of this amount, \$0.5 billion was the ceded premium during the three months ended March 31, 2025. SkyRidge Holdings and its subsidiaries are not consolidated with SBLH on its GAAP financial statements.

Market Conditions

The following is an overview of certain market conditions for the three months ended March 31, 2025 compared to March 31, 2024;

- *The 10-year Treasury rate decreased 35 basis points ("bps") during the three months ended March 31, 2025 to 4.23%, compared to an increase of 32 bps for the three months ended March 31, 2024 to 4.20%.*
- *The three month USD Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR") decreased 2 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2025 to 4.29%, compared to a decrease of 3 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2024 to 5.30%.*
- *Bloomberg BBB Long Credit gross yields decreased 7 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2025 to 6.00%, compared to a increase of 22 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2024 to 5.74%. The spread increased 19 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2025 to 1.45% compared to a decrease of 8 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2024 to 1.38%.*
- *CLO credit gross yields for "A" tranches increased 16 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2025 to 6.53%, compared to a decrease of 17 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2024 to 7.91%.*

- *CLO credit gross yields for “BBB” tranches increased 24 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2025 to 7.74%, compared to a decrease of 28 bps during the three months ended March 31, 2024 to 9.21%.*
- *The S&P 500 index decreased 4.59% during the three months ended March 31, 2025, compared to an increase of 10.16% during the three months ended March 31, 2024.*

Summary of Certain Aspects of the Current Period

The following is a summary of certain aspects of the current period. It is not intended as a substitute for the entire discussion and analysis in this document, to which reference is made:

- Total policyholder net general account inflows for the first quarter of 2025 were up \$681.0 million compared to the same period of 2024. Inflows were increased from adjusting crediting rates, and outflows benefited from less replacement activity given the current rate environment versus the first quarter of 2024. The competitive landscape and prevailing investment yields have resulted in an increase in overall crediting rates and option budgets for us.
- Our cash position continued to build in the first quarter of 2025 given the robust inflow of new business deposits, lower than expected outflows and a fixed income investment environment typified by tight risk premiums. This reflects our intention to invest in a manner that remains consistent with our longstanding investment philosophy, which means we have not stayed as invested as we typically are. Although this could change, we expect this to result in continued modestly higher cash balances in the second quarter of 2025 compared to recent quarters. By holding more cash, we can preserve flexibility and position ourselves to deploy into higher-yielding assets as spreads become more attractive. Meanwhile, the strategy creates a modest negative contribution to our returns. We estimate that the elevated levels of cash in our first quarter of 2025 portfolio, relative to our first quarter of 2024 portfolio, resulted in an estimated \$24.0 million decline in investment income in the first quarter, or a 24 bps decline on an annualized basis in our investment operating earned rate.
- Net income was reduced in the first quarter of 2025 by a negative change in fair value of options, futures, and swaps in the current period, compared to a positive change in the first quarter of 2024. These derivative positions are used to hedge the index credits to policyholders and on the FIA products we sell. These changes are driven by the performance of the underlying indices, which was unfavorable in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the first quarter of 2024. The interest credit periods range from 1-5 years. The offset, the item these derivatives are intended to hedge, are future index credits to policyholders, which is an embedded derivative. This embedded derivative is valued as future index credits over the life of the policy and reflects many assumptions regarding policyholder behavior in addition to the option valuation of future index credits. Given this volatility, many companies in the insurance industry typically report and focus on an operating income basis adjusting for the market impacts. With respect to operating income, the net effect adjustment is \$79.6 million (loss added back) for the first quarter of 2025 compared to \$43.8 million (gain removed) in the same period of 2024.
- Additional returns in the first quarter of 2025 were below the same period of 2024 by \$87.0 million. These returns represent direct equity investments or equity investments held through consolidated investment vehicles, which are accounted for by the equity method. These are reported on a one quarter lag and represent our economic share, under the equity method, of the net income earned for the period by the investee. In the first quarter of 2025, we saw some positions post losses, and we saw flat returns in other holdings that experienced a downturn due to the interest rate fluctuations in the fourth quarter of 2024. These were positions that had typically contributed positive returns in recent quarters. These investment returns are volatile based on the idiosyncratic and operating risk in some entities as well as market driven risk in others. Our long-term return expectations on our alternative portfolio and equity method investments remain generally favorable, while near term volatility may persist.

Revenues and Expenses

The principal sources of the Company's revenues are (i) net investment income from invested assets, (ii) net realized gains (losses) on investments, (iii) policy and contract fees on products, (iv) surrender and other product charges deducted from the account balances of policyholders, (v) changes in fair value of options, futures and swaps due to the performance of the underlying benchmark, and (vi) fees for other services.

The Company's expenses consist primarily of (i) annuity product benefits (primarily interest and index credits to account balances), (ii) changes in fair value of embedded derivatives on FIA products, (iii) changes in benefit reserves for guaranteed benefits greater than account value, (iv) amortization of deferred acquisition costs ("DAC"), deferred sales inducement costs ("DSI"), and value of business acquired ("VOBA"), (v) other operating expenses, (vi) interest expense on debt, and (vii) income taxes.

Under GAAP, premium collections for annuities are reported as deposit liabilities and not as revenues. Similarly, cash payments to policyholders are reported as decreases in the liabilities for policyholder account balances and not as expenses.

Operating Income (a Non-GAAP Financial Measure)

The Company uses operating income, a non-GAAP financial measure commonly used in the life insurance industry, as an economic measure to evaluate its financial performance. Operating income equals income before income tax expense adjusted to eliminate the impact of (1) investment-related gains and losses (including the reinsurance embedded derivative and change in fair value of certain derivatives), net of impacts on benefit reserves and DAC, DSI and VOBA; (2) changes in fair value of call options and embedded derivatives associated with the FIA products, net of impacts on benefit reserves and DAC, DSI and VOBA, and excludes realized gains and losses on call options used primarily to hedge index credits on FIA products; (3) changes in the fair value of the variable annuity guaranteed living benefit ("VA GLB") rider embedded derivatives, including guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits ("GMWB") and guaranteed minimum accumulation benefits ("GMAB"), net of changes in rider reserve and amortization of DAC, DSI and VOBA; and (4) changes in reserves and DAC, DSI and VOBA amortization related to actuarial assumption unlocking and model refinements. Because the reconciling items fluctuate from year to year in a manner unrelated to core operations, the Company believes a measure excluding the impact is useful in analyzing operating trends. The Company believes the combined presentation and evaluation of operating income together with net income provides information that may enhance an investor's understanding of the Company's results and profitability.

Operating income is not a substitute for net income determined in accordance with GAAP. The adjustments made to derive operating income are important to understanding the Company's overall results from operations, and, if evaluated without proper context, operating income possesses material limitations, including the following:

- As an example, the Company could produce a low level of net income in a given period, despite strong operating performance, if in that period it generates significant net realized losses from the Company's investment portfolio. The Company could also produce a high level of net income in a given period, despite poor operating performance, if in that period it generates significant net realized gains from the Company's investment portfolio.
- Another limitation of operating income is that it does not include the decrease in cash flows expected to be collected as a result of credit loss. Management reviews investment-related gains (losses) and analyses of the Company's net investment income in connection with the review of the Company's investment portfolio.

The following table presents the adjustments made to net income to arrive at operating income for the periods presented.

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | |
|--|------------------------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| | 2025 | 2024 | \$ Change | % Change |
| | (unaudited) | | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Non-GAAP Financial Measures | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 103,876 | \$ 267,833 | \$ (163,957) | (61.2)% |
| Income tax expense | 25,130 | 71,670 | (46,540) | (64.9)% |
| Income before income tax expense | 129,006 | 339,503 | (210,497) | (62.0)% |
| Investment-related (gains) losses ^(a) | (22,702) | 84,400 | (107,102) | (126.9)% |
| Change in fair value of fixed index annuity call options and embedded derivatives ^(b) | 79,628 | (43,844) | 123,472 | (281.6)% |
| Change in fair value of variable annuity guaranteed living benefit rider embedded derivatives ^(c) | 3,144 | (410) | 3,554 | (866.8)% |
| Assumption/model refinements and unlocking ^(d) | 2,629 | 1,534 | 1,095 | 71.4% |
| Operating income | \$ 191,705 | \$ 381,183 | \$ (189,478) | (49.7)% |

^(a) Investment-related (gains) losses (including the reinsurance embedded derivative and change in fair value of certain derivatives) are net of the impacts of change in reserves and amortization of DAC, DSI and VOBA.

^(b) Change in fair value of fixed index annuity call options and embedded derivatives is net of pro-rata amortization of option cost. The change in fair value of embedded derivatives equals the change in the difference between policy benefit reserves for FIA products computed under the derivative accounting standard and the long-duration contracts accounting standard. These amounts are reflected net of impacts of changes in reserves and amortization of DAC, DSI and VOBA. Realized gains and losses on call options used to hedge index credits on FIA products are excluded.

^(c) Change in fair value of variable annuity guaranteed living benefit rider embedded derivatives includes GMWB and GMAB, net of impacts of changes in reserves and amortization of DAC, DSI and VOBA.

^(d) Assumption/model refinements and unlocking represents the impact of the unlocking of actuarial assumptions and model refinements.

The change in operating income was driven by unfavorable net changes in fair value of options, futures and swaps along with unfavorable changes in net investment income.

Consolidated Results of Operations

Three months ended March 31, 2025 compared to three months ended March 31, 2024

Net income

Net income decreased by \$164.0 million, or 61.2%, to \$103.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2025 from \$267.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2024. The decrease was driven by a \$503.9 million decrease in revenues, partially offset by a \$293.4 million decrease in benefits and expenses.

Revenues

The following table presents a summary of components of the Company's revenues on a comparative basis for the periods presented.

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | 2025 | 2024 | \$ Change | % Change |
| | (unaudited) | | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Net investment income | \$ 689,381 | \$ 821,412 | \$ (132,031) | (16.1)% |
| Asset-based and administrative fees | 37,391 | 34,594 | 2,797 | 8.1% |
| Other product charges | 60,321 | 68,911 | (8,590) | (12.5)% |
| Change in fair value of options, futures and swaps | (171,221) | 295,133 | (466,354) | (158.0)% |
| Investment-related gains (losses) | 4,956 | (75,726) | 80,682 | 106.5% |
| Other revenues | 49,509 | 29,882 | 19,627 | 65.7% |
| Total revenues | <u>\$ 670,337</u> | <u>\$ 1,174,206</u> | <u>\$ (503,869)</u> | <u>(42.9)%</u> |

Net investment income

The decrease in net investment income was driven by lower investment yield partially offset by higher average spread-based AUM of \$40.5 billion as of March 31, 2025, compared to \$39.0 billion at March 31, 2024. Investment operating earned rate decreased 130 bps from 8.32% for the three months ended March 31, 2024, to 7.02% for the three months ended March 31, 2025, primarily due to a decrease in investment earned book yield of 41 bps from 7.43% for the prior period to 7.02% for the later period, along with a decrease of 89 bps, or \$87.0 million, in additional returns on investments primarily driven by equity method adjustments on certain LP investments. The decrease in the earned book yield is primarily due to a decrease in interest rates and a higher portfolio allocation to cash in 2025.

Change in fair value of options, futures and swaps

The decrease in the fair value of options, futures and swaps for the three months period ended March 31, 2025 was primarily due to the weaker performance of the underlying indices within the FIA products and consequently, the performance of the derivatives used to hedge the FIA index crediting obligations. The associated market indices (e.g., S&P 500 index) of the derivatives generally had negative performance. The S&P 500 was down 4.59%, for the three months ended March 31, 2025 compared to positive performance, up 10.16%, for the three months ended March 31, 2024. As a result of the associated market indices performance for each period ended, this was the primary driver of the decrease in fair value of options, futures and swaps for the period ended March 31, 2025, compared to an increase for the same period ended March 31, 2024.

The Company sells FIA policies that credit interest based on a percentage of the gain in a specified market index. This index crediting feature is an embedded derivative within the FIA reserve liability. A portion of the policyholder deposits is used to purchase derivatives, primarily call options, on the applicable indices to fund the index credits due to the FIA policyholders. Both the embedded derivative and call options are measured at fair value. Generally, the mark-to-market call option unrealized gain (loss) is offset by the change in reserve for the embedded derivative and guarantee reserve, with differences arising from the timing of the recognition of the index credits at the time of expected termination of the options and the valuation of the FIA embedded derivative which requires the inclusion of future index crediting periods beyond the current period. The option proceeds, supplemented by dynamic hedging in certain situations, generally offset the index credits. These call options are highly correlated to the portfolio allocations of the policyholders, such that the Company is economically effectively hedged with respect to FIA product index returns.

Investment-related gains (losses)

The net increase in investment-related gains (losses) was \$80.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2025 as compared to the three months ended March 31, 2024. The favorable changes were primarily driven in equity investments gains, funds withheld coinsurance embedded derivatives, allowance for credit losses on available for sale investments, and allowance for credit losses on mortgages. This was partially offset by unfavorable changes in foreign exchange rates losses.

Equity investments realized net gains of \$23.0 million for the three months ended March 31, 2025, compared to losses of \$31.9 million for the same period in 2024. The primary driver of the net loss in 2024 was the adverse change in market value of a single fair value option security.

The changes in allowance for credit losses for the available for sale investments portfolio increased by \$12.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2025 compared to the same period in 2024, due to changes in the fair value of certain fixed maturity, available for sale investments and the Company's subsequent internal review and assessment of their potential to incur future credit losses.

The changes in allowance for credit loss for the mortgage loan portfolio increased by \$10.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2025 compared to the same period in 2024. The change in allowance is consistent with the Company's current general and credit loss allowance relative to the principal amount originated.

The funds withheld coinsurance agreements require the Company to record a funds withheld payable that contains an embedded derivative for which the fair value is estimated based on the change in fair value of the assets supporting the funds withheld payable. The change in the fair value of the funds withheld embedded derivative resulted in a loss of \$23.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2025, compared to a loss of \$26.1 million for the same period in 2024. This resulted in a favorable period over period change of \$2.9 million being recognized within investment-related gains (losses). The change in fair value of the assets supporting the funds withheld payable is predominantly related to unrealized gains on structured credit. These securities are held as available for sale, with the unrealized gains and losses being reflected in other comprehensive

income. The portfolio has significant exposure to floating rate assets, which mitigates impacts from increases in portions of the treasury and SOFR yield curves.

Benefits and expenses

The following table presents a summary of and the change in benefits and expenses for the periods presented.

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | 2025 | 2024 | \$ Change | % Change |
| | <i>(unaudited)</i> | | | |
| | <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | | | |
| Benefits and expenses: | | | | |
| Index credits and interest credited to account balances | \$ 326,514 | \$ 272,348 | \$ 54,166 | 19.9% |
| Change in fixed index annuity embedded derivative and related benefits | (154,112) | 45,166 | (199,278) | (441.2)% |
| Other benefits | 59,192 | 167,762 | (108,570) | (64.7)% |
| Total benefits | 231,594 | 485,276 | (253,682) | (52.3)% |
| Other operating expenses | 126,457 | 115,373 | 11,084 | 9.6% |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs, deferred sales inducement costs, and value of business acquired | 128,419 | 153,805 | (25,386) | (16.5)% |
| Interest expense | 54,861 | 80,249 | (25,388) | (31.6)% |
| Total benefits and expenses | \$ 541,331 | \$ 834,703 | \$ (293,372) | (35.1)% |

Index credits and interest credited to account balances

The increase in index credits and interest credited to account balances was primarily driven by an increase in index credits of \$48.5 million due to an increase in the notional hedged of the FIA products. The increase in index credits outweighed lower performance of the associated indices over the index crediting period.

Change in fixed index annuity embedded derivative and related benefits

The decrease in the change in FIA embedded derivative and related benefits was primarily driven by (i) \$(207.1) million attributable to unrealized option losses in 2025 compared to gains in 2024 and (ii) the realization of index credits which increased the account value causing an offsetting reduction of \$(48.5) million. These decreases were partially offset by (i) \$29.4 million attributable to level discount rates in 2025, used to determine the fair value of the FIA embedded derivative, compared to an increase in discount rates in 2024, and (ii) \$21.0 million attributable to the rider charge refund embedded derivative increase in 2025 compared to a decrease in 2024.

Other benefits

The decrease in other benefits was primarily driven by a favorable reduction in the change in fair value of the index credits due to SkyRidge Re of \$109.4 million. The favorable reduction resulted from declines in the underlying indices.

Financial Condition

Assets

The following table presents the Company's assets for the periods presented.

| | As of | | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------|
| | March 31, 2025 | December 31, 2024 | \$ Change | % Change |
| | (unaudited) | (audited) | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Assets | | | | |
| Investments: ^(a) | | | | |
| Fixed maturities, available for sale | \$ 38,160,369 | \$ 37,807,643 | \$ 352,726 | 0.9% |
| Fixed maturities, trading | 376,247 | 376,922 | (675) | (0.2)% |
| Equity securities | 1,170,470 | 993,616 | 176,854 | 17.8% |
| Notes receivable from related parties | 1,819,894 | 2,079,394 | (259,500) | (12.5)% |
| Mortgage loans | 2,521,798 | 2,745,425 | (223,627) | (8.1)% |
| Policy loans | 69,031 | 70,373 | (1,342) | (1.9)% |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4,962,271 | 3,905,070 | 1,057,201 | 27.1% |
| Short-term investments | 203,500 | 91,020 | 112,480 | 123.6% |
| Call options | 768,911 | 1,020,039 | (251,128) | (24.6)% |
| Other invested assets | 2,014,961 | 2,131,919 | (116,958) | (5.5)% |
| Total investments | 52,067,452 | 51,221,421 | 846,031 | 1.7% |
| Accrued investment income | 729,983 | 684,931 | 45,052 | 6.6% |
| Reinsurance recoverable | 11,390,529 | 10,979,006 | 411,523 | 3.7% |
| Deferred income tax asset | 183,191 | 174,847 | 8,344 | 4.8% |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs, deferred sales | | | | |
| inducement costs and value of business acquired | 2,851,180 | 2,777,732 | 73,448 | 2.6% |
| Other assets | 901,889 | 728,269 | 173,620 | 23.8% |
| Separate account assets | 6,413,769 | 6,579,840 | (166,071) | (2.5)% |
| Total assets | \$ 74,537,993 | \$ 73,146,046 | \$ 1,391,947 | 1.9% |

(a) See the accompanying Notice to Investors under "Categories of Investments."

Fixed maturities, available for sale

The increase in fixed maturities classified as available for sale for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was primarily driven by \$182.5 million of net acquisitions, \$123.5 million of a favorable net change in value, and \$46.8 million of interest capitalized under contractual payment-in-kind agreements.

Equity securities

The increase in equity securities for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was primarily driven by \$158.3 million of net acquisitions and \$18.5 million of favorable net change in value during the period.

Notes receivable from related parties

The decrease in notes receivable from related parties for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was driven by net disposals of \$260.0 million. Related parties use this funding for the Company's direct origination investments as well as to warehouse underlying assets to be used for CLOs securitized by related parties.

Cash and cash equivalents

The increase in cash and cash equivalents for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was primarily attributable to (i) the Company holding a higher cash balance while the Company seeks to invest under its current asset allocation strategy, (ii) strong interest flows on the Company's floating rate assets and (iii) the Company fully exiting its high-yield CLO portfolio in the first quarter of 2025. The Company is intentionally maintaining a higher than usual balance of cash and cash equivalents to be ready to deploy as the Company looks for other investment opportunities.

Short-term investments

The increase in short-term investments for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was primarily attributable to net acquisitions of \$112.5 million.

Call options

The decrease in call options for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was driven by unfavorable changes in fair value of the options used to hedge the index crediting options offered in the Company's FIAs by \$200.7 million. These options were primarily indexed to the S&P 500 which generally had a weaker performance during the three months ended March 31, 2025 compared to the prior period. This change was also driven by \$50.4 million of net option purchases and expirations.

Other assets

The increase in other assets for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was primarily attributable to an increase in accounts receivable of \$163.3 million due to timing of investment trades.

Liabilities and stockholders' equity

The following table presents the Company's liabilities and stockholders' equity as of the periods presented.

| | As of | | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------|
| | March 31, 2025 | December 31, 2024 | \$ Change | % Change |
| | (unaudited) | (audited) | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Liabilities and stockholders' equity | | | | |
| Liabilities: | | | | |
| Policy reserves and annuity account values | \$ 46,528,631 | \$ 45,375,066 | \$ 1,153,565 | 2.5% |
| Funds withheld and held liability | 10,019,734 | 9,514,659 | 505,075 | 5.3% |
| Senior notes | 1,579,130 | 1,577,830 | 1,300 | 0.1% |
| Revolving credit facility (\$1.0 billion of capacity) | — | — | — | —% |
| Delayed draw term loan | 1,872 | 2,883 | (1,011) | (35.1)% |
| Surplus notes | 112,879 | 113,170 | (291) | (0.3)% |
| Debt from consolidated variable interest entities | — | 47,255 | (47,255) | (100.0)% |
| Derivative collateral | 581,522 | 894,549 | (313,027) | (35.0)% |
| Repurchase agreements | 343,374 | 328,443 | 14,931 | 4.5% |
| Other liabilities | 1,649,513 | 1,197,073 | 452,440 | 37.8% |
| Separate account liabilities | 6,413,769 | 6,579,840 | (166,071) | (2.5)% |
| Total liabilities | 67,230,424 | 65,630,768 | 1,599,656 | 2.4% |
| Stockholders' equity: | | | | |
| Common stock ⁽¹⁾ | — | — | — | —% |
| Preferred stock | 770,491 | 770,491 | — | —% |
| Contributed capital | 2,339,595 | 2,339,595 | — | —% |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | (115,549) | (128,964) | 13,415 | 10.4% |
| Retained earnings | 4,167,319 | 4,394,102 | (226,783) | (5.2)% |
| Total SBL Holdings, Inc. stockholders' equity | 7,161,856 | 7,375,224 | (213,368) | (2.9)% |
| Noncontrolling interest | 145,713 | 140,054 | 5,659 | 4.0% |
| Total stockholders' equity | 7,307,569 | 7,515,278 | (207,709) | (2.8)% |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$ 74,537,993 | \$ 73,146,046 | \$ 1,391,947 | 1.9% |

⁽¹⁾ \$.001 par value, 260,000,000 shares authorized, 1,000 issued and outstanding

Policy reserves and annuity account values

The increase in policy reserve and annuity account values for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was due primarily to interest and index credits to account values and deposits outpacing withdrawals, reserve increases related to GLWB and GMDB, and changes in FIA embedded derivatives and related benefits.

Debt from consolidated variable interest entities

The decrease in debt from consolidated variable interest entities for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was primarily driven by the unwinding and subsequent deconsolidation of our investments in the Senior Loan Fund investment vehicles which resulted in derecognition of the consolidated debt within the entities during the first quarter of 2025.

Derivative collateral

The decrease in derivative collateral for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was primarily driven by the performance of the associated market indices which was generally negative for the period. This resulted in a decline of the fair value of the related options and a reduction in the required collateral.

Other liabilities

The increase in other liabilities for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was primarily driven by increases in accounts payable due to timing of investment trades of \$314.6 million, taxes payable of \$36.6 million, \$45.3 million of policyholder activity in process, and \$35.4 million in forward contract payables.

Stockholders' Equity

The change in stockholders' equity for the three months ended March 31, 2025 was primarily driven by net income of \$103.9 million and \$13.4 million of net changes in AOCI as a result of net unrealized gains on fixed maturities, available for sale. These increases were offset by \$325.0 million of dividends paid by the Company.

Investments

General

The Company had total investments of \$52.1 billion as of March 31, 2025. In addition, the Company had assets in separate accounts of \$6.4 billion as of March 31, 2025. Except in certain limited situations permitted by applicable laws, separate account assets are not available to pay liabilities of the Company's general account and are not available to any general account creditors in the liquidation or rehabilitation of the Company.

The Company has an active approach to investments and seeks to maximize total investment return while prudently managing investment risk. The Company's investment approach also takes into account the required capital levels of the Company's insurance subsidiaries and the treatment of its investments under statutory accounting practices and the related insurance laws and regulations, which limit the type and amount of investments the Company can make in certain asset classes and individual investments. It also takes into account criteria known to it to be applied by the nationally recognized statistical rating organizations ("NRSROs") in rating the Company and its obligations.

The Company seeks to obtain higher rates of investment return while managing credit risk by engaging, to a greater extent than certain peers, in directly originated, secured corporate lending and purchasing of securities versus buying a portfolio of broadly syndicated investments. It does so through its direct origination investments, as well as close involvement in the accumulation of underlying assets of CLOs. More generally, the Company seeks to deliver higher rates of investment return by capitalizing on less-conventional investment strategies with better risk-adjusted return profiles. The Company believes its relatively stable policy liabilities permit it to hold appropriate levels of relatively illiquid investments.

Subject to the foregoing, the Company intends to maintain an investment portfolio that is predominantly comprised of high-quality, (*i.e.*, investment grade) fixed-income investments that can provide a high level of cash flow predictability in light of the Company's obligations to policyholders and investors.

The Company's investments principally consist of corporate debt, CLOs, cash and cash equivalents, mortgage loans, and other asset backed securities. Since December 31, 2024, on a percentage basis and based on fair value, the Company has increased its allocation to cash and cash equivalents, other asset backed securities, and redeemable preferred stock, while decreasing its relative allocation to CLOs, notes receivable from related parties, and call options.

From December 31, 2024 to March 31, 2025, on a statutory basis, SBLIC's collateral loan investments, net of investments supporting the Company's funds withheld coinsurance agreements, increased by \$0.2 billion, from \$12.6 billion to \$12.8 billion. From December 31, 2024 to March 31, 2025, SBLIC's equity investments decreased \$29.7 million on a statutory basis. On a statutory basis and for capital purposes, collateral loans and equity investments generally carry higher required capital charges than investment-grade bonds. The NAIC is considering changing the way the Risk Based Capital (RBC) charges are assigned to collateral loans. Currently, there is one-specific RBC charge for all collateral loans regardless of the underlying collateral or the loan to value ratio. However, in June 2024, the NAIC's Life Risk Based Capital (E) Working Group adopted interim changes that provide for look-through treatment for collateral loans secured by mortgage loans to be treated as Schedule BA mortgages, beginning year-end 2024. The NAIC has stated that in 2025 it will continue to consider the extent to which look-through treatment for collateral loans secured by other types of underlying collateral should apply for RBC purposes. If as part of this initiative, the NAIC required a look-through for all types of collateral, such as equity and unrated debt, and absent credit for subordination as a result of an LTV below 100% and/or management actions, such changes could adversely affect SBLIC's RBC, and such adverse effect could be material. Although the entity to which the Company extends its collateral loan may have substantial equity or subordinated capital, there is uncertainty about the extent, if any, to which such equity or subordinated capital would be credited or otherwise recognized for RBC purposes under this NAIC initiative.

As stated in the accompanying Notice to Investors under "Categories of Investments":

- Collateral loan investments are reflected (i) on a GAAP basis, in "corporate debt" and "corporate," (ii) on a statutory basis, in "other invested assets," and (iii) as viewed by management in "management's view" and similar

formulations, in “ABS.” In the “management view” and similar formulations, “ABS” and “asset-backed securities” are used differently, with “asset-backed securities” being the term that does not include collateral loan investments.

- Equity investments are reflected (i) on a GAAP basis, in “other invested assets” and “equity securities.” (ii) on a statutory basis, primarily in “other invested assets” and “stocks” and (iii) as viewed by management in “management’s view” and similar formulations, in “alternative investments.”

As used by the Company, “collateral loan” means a loan secured by collateral owned by the borrower of the loan. Most of the collateral loan borrowers are affiliates of SBLIC, and SBLIC is generally the only lender to a borrower. The collateral supporting SBLIC’s portfolio of collateral loans includes various equity investments (including common equity, preferred equity and CLO equity), debt investments and structured securities in various sectors. The collateral pool changes over time. The collateral may be held through one of more intermediate entities. As of March 31, 2025, \$10.1 billion of these loans were subject to cross-collateralization agreements and a separate master guaranty. Collateral loans are advanced by the Company at an individual loan to value ratio (“LTV”) no greater than 80%, and the loan documentation provides for regular reporting on each collateral loan borrower’s LTV and generally includes an LTV maintenance covenant. Collateral loans are generally not rated by any NRSRO. Collateral loans are different from CLOs and other securitization products.

The following table summarizes the composition of the Company’s investment portfolio on a GAAP basis as of the dates presented.

| | March 31, 2025 | | December 31, 2024 | |
|--|------------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| | Carrying Amount | Percent | Carrying Amount | Percent |
| | (unaudited) | | (audited) | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Securities available for sale | | | | |
| Fixed maturity investments: | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury securities and other U.S. government corporations and agencies | \$ 31,948 | 0.1% | \$ 30,104 | 0.1% |
| Obligations of government-sponsored enterprises | 686,918 | 1.3% | 646,663 | 1.3% |
| Corporate | 23,963,866 | 46.0% | 23,662,216 | 46.2% |
| Municipal obligations | 26,235 | 0.1% | 25,865 | 0.1% |
| Commercial mortgage-backed | 50,464 | 0.1% | 51,579 | 0.1% |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 22,648 | n/m | 23,502 | n/m |
| Collateralized debt obligations | 5,108 | n/m | 5,111 | n/m |
| Collateralized loan obligations | 11,023,667 | 21.2% | 11,232,508 | 21.9% |
| Redeemable preferred stock | 28,042 | 0.1% | 27,862 | n/m |
| Other asset backed | 2,321,473 | 4.5% | 2,102,233 | 4.1% |
| Total fixed maturity investments | 38,160,369 | 73.3% | 37,807,643 | 73.8% |
| Fixed maturities, trading | 376,247 | 0.7% | 376,922 | 0.7% |
| Equity securities at fair value | 1,170,470 | 2.2% | 993,616 | 1.9% |
| Notes receivable from related parties | 1,819,894 | 3.5% | 2,079,394 | 4.1% |
| Mortgage loans | 2,521,798 | 4.8% | 2,745,425 | 5.4% |
| Policy loans | 69,031 | 0.1% | 70,373 | 0.1% |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4,962,271 | 9.5% | 3,905,070 | 7.6% |
| Short-term investments | 203,500 | 0.4% | 91,020 | 0.2% |
| Call options | 768,911 | 1.5% | 1,020,039 | 2.0% |
| Other invested assets | 2,014,961 | 3.9% | 2,131,919 | 4.2% |
| Total investments | \$ 52,067,452 | 100.0% | \$ 51,221,421 | 100.0% |

n/m - not meaningful

Note: See the accompanying Notice to Investors under “Categories of Investments” for a discussion of certain investments and how they are reflected in various presentations.

The following table presents, as viewed by the Company’s management, a summary of the NRSRO ratings distribution (based on statutory assets and carrying value) of the Company’s rated investments^(A) as of the dates presented.

| Fixed Maturity Investments ^{(A)(B)} | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---------|-------------------|-----------------|---------|
| March 31, 2025 | | | December 31, 2024 | | |
| | Carrying Amount | Percent | | Carrying Amount | Percent |
| <i>(unaudited)</i> | | | | | |
| <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | | | | | |
| AAA | \$ 2,866,631 | 18% | \$ 2,842,604 | 17% | |
| AA | 855,372 | 5% | 807,088 | 5% | |
| A | 3,992,692 | 25% | 4,065,548 | 25% | |
| BBB | 6,628,291 | 41% | 6,839,712 | 42% | |
| Subtotal investment grade | 14,342,985 | 89% | 14,554,952 | 89% | |
| BB | 1,468,572 | 9% | 1,519,767 | 9% | |
| B | 337,599 | 2% | 334,413 | 2% | |
| CCC+ and lower | 4,995 | n/m | 7,126 | n/m | |
| Subtotal below investment grade | 1,811,166 | 11% | 1,861,306 | 11% | |
| Total | \$ 16,154,151 | 100% | \$ 16,416,258 | 100% | |
| <i>n/m - not meaningful</i> | | | | | |
| Fixed maturity investments not rated | \$ 20,502,182 | | \$ 20,433,306 | | |

(A) NRSRO rating is based on the lowest S&P equivalent when two ratings are present and on the second lowest rating when three or more ratings are present. This is consistent with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (“NAIC”) Purposes and Procedures Manual. Only assets with NRSRO ratings are presented, which represented \$16.2 billion (or 44%) of the Company’s total investments, excluding cash, contract loans, derivatives, receivables for investments, and aggregate write-ins, on a statutory basis as of March 31, 2025.

(B) Derivatives, cash, collateral loans, commercial mortgage loans, short-term loans, separate account variable, mutual fund custodial assets, and funds withheld assets are excluded.

The following table presents, as viewed by management, a summary of the NRSRO rating distribution (based on statutory assets and carrying value) of our rated CLOs and rated other asset backed securities as of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024.

| Collateralized Loan Obligations ^{(A)(B)} | | | Collateralized Loan Obligations ^{(A)(B)} | | |
|---|-----------------|---------|---|-----------------|---------|
| March 31, 2025 | | | December 31, 2024 | | |
| | Carrying Amount | Percent | | Carrying Amount | Percent |
| <i>(unaudited)</i> | | | | | |
| <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | | | | | |
| AAA | \$ 2,304,301 | 28% | \$ 2,354,580 | 29% | |
| AA | 750,959 | 9% | 707,384 | 9% | |
| A | 1,576,944 | 19% | 1,604,092 | 20% | |
| BBB | 2,911,917 | 36% | 2,691,252 | 33% | |
| Subtotal investment grade | 7,544,121 | 92% | 7,357,308 | 91% | |
| BB | 542,895 | 7% | 641,799 | 8% | |
| B | 117,750 | 1% | 121,670 | 1% | |
| CCC+ and lower | 1,160 | n/m | 3,245 | n/m | |
| Subtotal below investment grade | 661,806 | 8% | 766,714 | 9% | |
| Total | \$ 8,205,927 | 100% | \$ 8,124,022 | 100% | |
| <i>n/m - not meaningful</i> | | | | | |
| Not rated | \$ 116,477 | | \$ 209,813 | | |

| | Other Asset Backed Securities ^(A) | | Other Asset Backed Securities ^(A) | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------|--|---------|
| | March 31, 2025 | | December 31, 2024 | |
| | Carrying Amount | Percent | Carrying Amount | Percent |
| | (unaudited) | | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| AAA | \$ 12,388 | 1% | \$ 12,401 | 1% |
| AA | 79,687 | 4% | 74,652 | 4% |
| A | 578,271 | 29% | 579,269 | 29% |
| BBB | 865,348 | 43% | 854,013 | 43% |
| Subtotal investment grade | 1,535,694 | 77% | 1,520,335 | 77% |
| BB | 279,154 | 14% | 280,451 | 14% |
| B | 170,102 | 9% | 169,365 | 9% |
| Subtotal below investment grade | 449,256 | 23% | 449,816 | 23% |
| Total | \$ 1,984,950 | 100% | \$ 1,970,151 | 100% |
| <i>n/m - not meaningful</i> | | | | |
| Not rated | \$ 12,811,667 | | \$ 12,551,638 | |

(A) NRSRO rating is based on the lowest S&P equivalent when two ratings are present and on the second lowest rating when three or more ratings are present. This is consistent with the NAIC Purposes and Procedures Manual. Only assets with NRSRO ratings are displayed.

(B) Certain statutory investments are characterized as CLOs due to their underlying exposure to both rated and unrated CLO tranches. Such investments have exposure to approximately \$0.0 billion and \$0.1 billion in unrated CLO tranches as of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024. CLO assets with NRSRO ratings are presented, which represented \$8.2 billion (or 22%) and \$2.0 billion (or 22%) of the Company's total investments, excluding cash, contract loans, derivatives, receivables for investments, and aggregate write-ins, on a statutory basis as of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, respectively.

Fixed Maturity, Available for Sale

The following table presents the amortized cost and fair value of the Company's fixed maturity available for sale investments as of the dates presented, by contractual maturity. Expected maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without penalties.

| | Amortized Cost | Fair Value |
|---|------------------------|---------------|
| | (dollars in thousands) | |
| March 31, 2025 (unaudited) | | |
| Due in one year or less | \$3,574,544 | \$3,573,368 |
| Due after one year through five years | 16,500,920 | 16,472,780 |
| Due after five years through ten years | 2,722,396 | 2,569,181 |
| Due after ten years | 1,423,597 | 1,406,721 |
| Securities with variable principal schedules ^(a) | 14,179,243 | 14,138,319 |
| Total | \$38,400,700 | \$38,160,369 |
| December 31, 2024 (audited) | | |
| Due in one year or less | \$ 3,110,142 | \$ 3,060,305 |
| Due after one year through five years | 16,711,523 | 16,661,907 |
| Due after five years through ten years | 2,834,053 | 2,644,066 |
| Due after ten years | 1,378,192 | 1,351,907 |
| Securities with variable principal schedules ^(a) | 14,093,697 | 14,089,458 |
| Total | \$ 38,127,607 | \$ 37,807,643 |

(a) Included within the securities with variable principal schedules are collateralized debt obligations, collateralized loan obligations, commercial mortgage backed securities, obligations of government sponsored enterprises, other asset backed securities, redeemable preferred stock, and residential mortgage backed securities.

Assets and Liabilities Measured and Reported at Fair Value

The following table presents categories measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of the dates presented.

| | March 31, 2025 | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Fair Value Hierarchy Level | | | |
| | Fair Value | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
| | (unaudited) | | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Assets: | | | | |
| Cash equivalents | \$ 1,543,746 | \$ 1,543,746 | \$ — | \$ — |
| Fixed maturity investments: | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury securities and other U.S. government corporations and agencies | 36,973 | — | 36,973 | — |
| Obligations of government-sponsored enterprises | 724,536 | — | 724,536 | — |
| Corporate | 24,160,302 | — | 2,706,306 | 21,453,996 |
| Municipal obligations | 38,752 | — | 19,853 | 18,899 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed | 67,295 | — | 63,074 | 4,221 |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 54,667 | — | 54,667 | — |
| Collateralized debt obligations | 5,108 | — | 5,108 | — |
| Collateralized loan obligations | 11,049,193 | — | 6,819,626 | 4,229,567 |
| Redeemable preferred stock | 28,042 | — | — | 28,042 |
| Other asset backed | 2,371,748 | — | 602,838 | 1,768,910 |
| Total fixed maturity investments | 38,536,616 | — | 11,032,981 | 27,503,635 |
| Equity securities: | | | | |
| Consumer | 478,468 | 50,673 | 283,527 | 144,268 |
| Mutual funds | 3,657 | 3,657 | — | — |
| Preferred stocks | 688,345 | — | 116,985 | 571,360 |
| Total equity securities | 1,170,470 | 54,330 | 400,512 | 715,628 |
| Other invested assets | 269,591 | — | — | 269,591 |
| Short-term investments | 203,500 | — | 203,500 | — |
| Call options | 768,911 | — | 768,911 | — |
| Currency forwards and swaps | 66,932 | — | 66,932 | — |
| Interest rate swaps and total return swaps | 115,774 | 22,889 | 9,691 | 83,194 |
| Futures | 3,912 | 3,912 | — | — |
| Other derivatives | 9 | 4 | 5 | — |
| Embedded derivatives: | | | | |
| Reinsurance contracts | 1,303,189 | — | — | 1,303,189 |
| Commission assignment | 87 | — | — | 87 |
| Funds withheld receivable | (3,328) | — | — | (3,328) |
| Separate account assets | 6,413,769 | 3,371,569 | — | 3,042,200 |
| Total assets | \$ 50,393,178 | \$ 4,996,450 | \$ 12,482,532 | \$ 32,914,196 |
| Liabilities: | | | | |
| Call options | \$ 7,331 | \$ — | \$ 7,331 | \$ — |
| Currency forwards and swaps | 99,803 | — | 99,803 | — |
| Interest rate swaps and total return swaps | 23,190 | 2,449 | 14,407 | 6,334 |
| Hedge accounting liability for fixed annuity product | (16,733) | — | — | (16,733) |
| Futures | 496 | 496 | — | — |
| Interest rate caps | 1,410 | — | 1,383 | 27 |
| Derivatives and embedded derivatives: | | | | |
| GMWB and GMAB reserves | 3,232 | — | — | 3,232 |
| Funds withheld liability | (11,454) | — | — | (11,454) |
| Reinsurance contracts | 235,065 | — | — | 235,065 |
| Fixed index annuity contracts | 4,110,745 | — | — | 4,110,745 |
| Total liabilities | \$ 4,453,085 | \$ 2,945 | \$ 122,924 | \$ 4,327,216 |

Note: See the accompanying Notice to Investors under "Categories of Investments" for a discussion of certain investments and how they are reflected in various presentations.

| | December 31, 2024 | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| | Fair Value Hierarchy Level | | | | |
| | Fair Value | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | |
| | (audited) | | | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | | |
| Assets: | | | | | |
| Cash equivalents | \$ 1,316,613 | \$ 1,316,613 | \$ — | \$ — | |
| Fixed maturity investments: | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury securities and other U.S. government corporations and agencies | 35,113 | — | 35,113 | — | |
| Obligations of government-sponsored enterprises | 684,383 | — | 684,383 | — | |
| Corporate | 23,853,273 | — | 3,074,976 | 20,778,297 | |
| Municipal obligations | 39,041 | — | 20,421 | 18,620 | |
| Commercial mortgage-backed | 70,743 | — | 66,587 | 4,156 | |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 56,626 | — | 56,626 | — | |
| Collateralized debt obligations | 5,111 | — | 5,111 | — | |
| Collateralized loan obligations | 11,258,899 | — | 7,714,457 | 3,544,442 | |
| Redeemable preferred stock | 27,862 | — | 27,862 | — | |
| Other asset backed | 2,153,514 | — | 617,029 | 1,536,485 | |
| Total fixed maturity investments | 38,184,565 | — | 12,302,565 | 25,882,000 | |
| Equity securities: | | | | | |
| Consumer | 340,981 | 76,861 | 228,177 | 35,943 | |
| Mutual funds | 5,115 | 5,115 | — | — | |
| Preferred stocks | 647,520 | — | 314,079 | 333,441 | |
| Total equity securities | 993,616 | 81,976 | 542,256 | 369,384 | |
| Other invested assets | 271,382 | — | — | 271,382 | |
| Short-term investments | 91,020 | — | 91,020 | — | |
| Call options | 1,020,039 | — | 1,020,039 | — | |
| Currency forwards and swaps | 191,359 | — | 191,359 | — | |
| Interest rate swaps and total return swaps | 42,218 | 39,572 | 2,093 | 553 | |
| Futures | 325 | 325 | — | — | |
| Other derivatives | 6 | 4 | 2 | — | |
| Embedded derivatives: | | | | | |
| Funds withheld receivable | (5,532) | — | — | (5,532) | |
| Commission assignment | 126 | — | — | 126 | |
| Reinsurance contracts | 1,241,785 | — | — | 1,241,785 | |
| Separate account assets | 6,579,840 | 3,537,640 | — | 3,042,200 | |
| Total assets | \$ 49,927,362 | \$ 4,976,130 | \$ 14,149,334 | \$ 30,801,898 | |
| Liabilities: | | | | | |
| Call options | \$ 12,059 | \$ — | \$ 12,059 | \$ — | |
| Currency forwards and swaps | 64,403 | — | 64,403 | — | |
| Interest rate swaps and total return swaps | 45,218 | 17,377 | 27,589 | 252 | |
| Hedge accounting liability for fixed annuity product | (47,236) | — | — | (47,236) | |
| Futures | 6,915 | 6,915 | — | — | |
| Interest rate cap | 2,470 | — | 2,470 | — | |
| Derivatives and embedded derivatives: | | | | | |
| GMWB and GMAB reserves | 2,662 | — | — | 2,662 | |
| Funds withheld liability | (34,206) | — | — | (34,206) | |
| Reinsurance contracts | 295,764 | — | — | 295,764 | |
| Fixed index annuity contracts | 3,939,643 | — | — | 3,939,643 | |
| Total liabilities | \$ 4,287,692 | \$ 24,292 | \$ 106,521 | \$ 4,156,879 | |

The Company has a high propensity to Level 3 valuations of its fixed maturity investments as an outcome of its direct origination strategy, which may result in a limited number of investors in the instrument. However, the Company believes that the valuation level of an asset is not necessarily a key indicator of the quality of such asset.

See “Critical Accounting Policies – Valuation of Investments” for additional information about valuation.

Unrealized Losses

The following table presents the amortized cost and fair value of fixed maturity available for sale investments (including the allowance for credit losses) in an unrealized loss position as of the dates presented.

| March 31, 2025 | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Less Than 12 Months | | | Greater Than or Equal to 12 Months | | Total | | |
| Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses | | Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses | Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses | |
| <i>(unaudited)</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>(In Thousands)</i> | | | | | | | |
| Fixed maturity investments, available for sale: | | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury securities and other U.S. government corporations and agencies | \$ 2,215 | \$ (23) | \$ 27,628 | \$ (2,294) | \$ 29,843 | \$ (2,317) | |
| Obligations of government-sponsored enterprises | 15,495 | (84) | 76,783 | (8,564) | 92,278 | (8,648) | |
| Corporate | 10,066,900 | (162,169) | 1,869,920 | (191,744) | 11,936,820 | (353,913) | |
| Municipal obligations | 197 | (3) | 14,600 | (1,562) | 14,797 | (1,565) | |
| Commercial mortgage-backed | 3,348 | (194) | 31,870 | (4,375) | 35,218 | (4,569) | |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 197 | — | 8,797 | (1,229) | 8,994 | (1,229) | |
| Collateralized loan obligations | 2,570,586 | (36,729) | 676,571 | (78,821) | 3,247,157 | (115,550) | |
| Other asset backed | 245,249 | (688) | 640,938 | (21,594) | 886,187 | (22,282) | |
| Total fixed maturity investments, available for sale | <u>\$ 12,904,187</u> | <u>\$ (199,890)</u> | <u>\$ 3,347,107</u> | <u>\$ (310,183)</u> | <u>\$ 16,251,294</u> | <u>\$ (510,073)</u> | |
| Number of securities investment grade with unrealized losses | | 473 | | 563 | | 1,036 | |
| Percent investment grade with unrealized losses | | 73% | | 87% | | 80% | |
| Number of securities below investment grade with unrealized losses | | 68 | | 49 | | 117 | |
| Percent below investment grade with unrealized losses | | 11% | | 8% | | 9% | |
| Number of securities not rated with unrealized losses | | 103 | | 37 | | 140 | |
| Percent not rated with unrealized losses | | 16% | | 6% | | 11% | |
| Number of securities with unrealized losses | | 953 | | 1,270 | | 2,223 | |

| December 31, 2024 | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|--|
| Less Than 12 Months | | Greater Than or Equal to 12 Months | | Total | | | |
| Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses | Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses | Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses | | |
| (audited) | | | | | | | |
| (In Thousands) | | | | | | | |
| Fixed maturity investments, available for sale: | | | | | | | |
| U.S. Treasury securities and other U.S. | | | | | | | |
| government corporations and agencies | \$ 1,603 | \$ (50) | \$ 27,462 | \$ (2,720) | \$ 29,065 | \$ (2,770) | |
| Obligations of government-sponsored enterprises | | | | | | | |
| | 254,719 | (2,022) | 78,204 | (10,378) | 332,923 | (12,400) | |
| Corporate | 7,700,139 | (195,061) | 2,534,371 | (220,944) | 10,234,510 | (416,005) | |
| Municipal obligations | 10,741 | (85) | 14,406 | (1,792) | 25,147 | (1,877) | |
| Commercial mortgage-backed | 4,252 | (156) | 32,570 | (5,343) | 36,822 | (5,499) | |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 1,369 | (8) | 8,937 | (1,379) | 10,306 | (1,387) | |
| Collateralized loan obligations | 606,296 | (14,605) | 865,528 | (89,829) | 1,471,824 | (104,434) | |
| Other asset backed | 446,918 | (3,542) | 623,656 | (25,621) | 1,070,574 | (29,163) | |
| Total fixed maturity investments, available for sale | \$ 9,026,037 | \$ (215,529) | \$ 4,185,134 | \$ (358,006) | \$ 13,211,171 | \$ (573,535) | |
| Number of securities investment grade with unrealized losses | | | | | | | |
| | | 479 | | 604 | | 1,083 | |
| Percent investment grade with unrealized losses | | | | | | | |
| | | 79% | | 86% | | 83% | |
| Number of securities below investment grade with unrealized losses | | | | | | | |
| | | 74 | | 56 | | 130 | |
| Percent below investment grade with unrealized losses | | | | | | | |
| | | 12% | | 8% | | 10% | |
| Number of securities not rated with unrealized losses | | | | | | | |
| | | 53 | | 45 | | 98 | |
| Percent not rated with unrealized losses | | | | | | | |
| | | 9% | | 6% | | 7% | |
| Number of securities with unrealized losses | | | | | | | |
| | | 606 | | 705 | | 1,311 | |

Alternative Investments

The Company holds a portion of the investment portfolio in alternative investments, as viewed by management, reflected at statutory carrying value. The following table presents the Company's alternative investments on a statutory basis as of the dates presented. Alternative investments are reflected in the Company's GAAP consolidated balance sheets primarily within equity securities and other invested assets.

| | March 31, 2025 | | December 31, 2024 | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| | Statutory Asset | | Statutory Asset | |
| | Carry Value ^(a) | Percent | Carry Value ^(a) | Percent |
| | (unaudited) | | | |
| | (dollars in thousands) | | | |
| Private equity | \$1,242,568 | 58.6 % | \$ 1,208,031 | 57.6 % |
| Credit | 746,924 | 35.2 % | 761,010 | 36.3 % |
| Public equity | 2,960 | 0.1 % | 1,072 | n/m |
| Real estate related investments | 56,045 | 2.6 % | 58,931 | 2.8 % |
| Other | 72,181 | 3.4 % | 69,608 | 3.3 % |
| Total | \$ 2,120,678 | 100.0 % | \$ 2,098,652 | 100.0 % |

(a) Represents alternative assets in management's view.

Note: See the accompanying Notice to Investors under "Categories of Investments."

Non-U.S. Exposure

The Company holds fixed maturity available for sale investments issued by non-U.S. issuers. As of March 31, 2025, 9.7% of the carrying value of the Company's fixed maturity securities was comprised of securities in issuers based outside the United States and securities of foreign governments. The Company's investment professionals analyze each holding for credit risk by economic and other factors of each country and industry.

The following table presents the Company's non-U.S. exposure in its fixed maturity portfolio by country or region as of the dates presented.

| | Amortized Cost | Fair Value | Percent of Total Fixed Maturity Carrying Amount |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| | | (unaudited) | |
| | | (dollars in thousands) | |
| March 31, 2025 | | | |
| Non-U.S. North America | \$ 1,179,602 | \$ 1,143,421 | 3.0% |
| Europe | 2,285,299 | 2,314,504 | 6.1% |
| Australia & New Zealand | 29,714 | 29,886 | 0.1% |
| Asia/Pacific | 1,980 | 1,678 | n/m |
| GIIPS | 122,147 | 113,086 | 0.3% |
| Other | 82,781 | 66,475 | 0.2% |
| Total | <u>\$ 3,701,523</u> | <u>\$ 3,669,050</u> | 9.7% |
| December 31, 2024 | | | |
| Non-U.S. North America | \$ 1,590,842 | \$ 1,570,957 | 4.3% |
| Europe | 2,374,178 | 2,315,822 | 6.1% |
| Australia & New Zealand | 29,714 | 29,687 | n/m |
| Asia/Pacific | 1,980 | 1,635 | n/m |
| GIIPS | 101,377 | 87,730 | 0.2% |
| Other | 83,669 | 67,640 | 0.2% |
| Total | <u>\$ 4,181,760</u> | <u>\$ 4,073,471</u> | 10.8% |

The Company uses a currency hedging strategy to manage and hedge the currency risk in foreign currency denominated investments. Since all known non-USD cash flows are fully hedged, net foreign currency exposure is minimized. The strategy is executed through various derivatives (foreign currency forwards and cross currency swaps) that hedge the foreign currency risk embedded in certain asset positions (EUR- or GBP-denominated loans) or asset classes in the Company's portfolio.

Watch List

At each balance sheet date, the Company identifies invested assets that have characteristics creating uncertainty as to the Company's ability to recover the amortized cost basis of the investment (*e.g.*, significant unrealized losses compared to amortized cost and industry trends). As part of this assessment, the Company's review includes, but is not limited to, factors such as a change in current price relative to a security's amortized cost, changes to the issuer's current credit rating, and the probability of full recovery of principal based upon the issuer's financial strength. Certain investments included on the watch list may have unrealized losses related to market movements in interest rates, but the Company anticipates recovery of all contractual or expected cash flows. The Company does not consider these investments to have credit losses. Furthermore, the Company does not intend to sell these investments, nor is it more likely than not that it will be required to sell these investments before the recovery of amortized cost, which may be at maturity.

The following table presents the amortized cost and fair value of the Company's fixed maturity investments on the Company's watch list as of the dates presented.

| | Number of Positions | Amortized Cost | Unrealized Losses | Fair Value |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| <i>(unaudited)</i> | | | | |
| <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | | | | |
| March 31, 2025 | | | | |
| Investment grade | | | | |
| Commercial mortgage backed | 1 | \$ 212 | \$ (126) | \$ 86 |
| Corporate | 3 | 1,218 | (325) | 893 |
| Municipal obligations | 1 | 250 | (50) | 200 |
| Residential mortgage backed | 2 | 749 | (166) | 583 |
| Below investment grade | | | | |
| Collateralized loan obligations | 5 | 76,427 | (22,555) | 53,872 |
| Commercial mortgage backed | 2 | 5,372 | (1,348) | 4,024 |
| Not rated | | | | |
| Collateral loans | 2 | 267,718 | (93,042) | 174,676 |
| Corporate | 4 | 1,907 | (565) | 1,342 |
| Municipal obligations | 1 | 250 | (56) | 194 |
| Total | 21 | \$ 354,103 | \$ (118,233) | \$ 235,870 |
| December 31, 2024 | | | | |
| Investment grade | | | | |
| Commercial mortgage backed | 2 | \$ 1,015 | \$ (302) | \$ 713 |
| Corporate | 3 | 1,218 | (335) | 883 |
| Municipal obligations | 3 | 450 | (113) | 337 |
| Residential mortgage backed | 5 | 1,893 | (421) | 1,472 |
| Below investment grade | | | | |
| Collateralized loan obligations | 7 | 100,960 | (26,975) | 73,985 |
| Corporate | 4 | 890 | (312) | 578 |
| Commercial mortgage backed | 2 | 5,363 | (1,767) | 3,596 |
| Not rated | | | | |
| Collateral loans | 2 | 262,469 | (94,966) | 167,503 |
| Collateralized loan obligations | 1 | 6,870 | (1,890) | 4,980 |
| Corporate | 2 | 1,500 | (488) | 1,012 |
| Municipal obligations | 1 | 250 | (52) | 198 |
| Total | 32 | \$ 382,878 | \$ (127,621) | \$ 255,257 |

Note: See the accompanying Notice to Investors under "Categories of Investments" for a discussion of certain investments and how they are reflected in various presentations.

Credit Losses

The Company has a policy and process in place to identify investments in its fixed maturity available for sale investment portfolio for which the Company should recognize a credit loss allowance. See "Critical Accounting Policies - Allowance for Credit Losses on Fixed Maturity Available for Sale Investments and Mortgage Loan Portfolio."

Real Estate-Related Investments

The following table presents the Company's general account investments in real estate-related investments as of the dates presented.

| Real Estate Exposure Type | March 31, 2025 | | December 31, 2024 | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| | Carrying Amount (\$ of General Account Investments in Real Estate-Related Investments) | Percent (%) of General Account Investments in Real Estate-Related Investments | Carrying Amount (\$ of General Account Investments in Real Estate-Related Investments) | Percent (%) of General Account Investments in Real Estate-Related Investments |
| <i>(unaudited)</i> | | | | |
| <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | | | | |
| Real estate related limited partnerships | \$ 15,286 | n/m | \$ 323,805 | 0.6 % |
| Real estate related short-term investments | — | — | 5 | n/m |
| Real estate related equities | 294,132 | 0.6 % | 130,957 | 0.3 % |
| Long term debt of real estate management and development companies | 4,533,229 | 8.7 % | 4,224,475 | 8.2 % |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities | 50,852 | 0.1 % | 51,693 | 0.1 % |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities | 692,698 | 1.3 % | 650,440 | 1.3 % |
| Debt or equity investments in real estate investment trusts (REITs) | 459,499 | 0.9 % | 401,873 | 0.8 % |
| Mezzanine real estate loans (MRELs) | 1,568,647 | 3.0 % | 1,742,360 | 3.4 % |
| Commercial mortgage loans (CMLs) | 965,818 | 1.9 % | 1,017,125 | 2.0 % |
| Residential mortgage loans (RMLs) | 3,987 | n/m | 4,025 | n/m |
| | \$ 8,584,148 | 16.5 % | \$ 8,546,758 | 16.7 % |

The weighted average loan to value ratio of the Company's mortgage loan portfolio was 60.8% and 61.8% as of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, based on adjusted loan to value calculations utilizing current net operating income, cap rates, and construction costs, where appropriate and available. The Company believes this loan to value ratio is indicative of its conservative underwriting policies and practices for mortgage loans. The Company's current practice is to obtain market value appraisals of the underlying collateral at the inception of the loan unless the Company identifies indicators of impairment in its ongoing analysis of the portfolio, in which case the Company either calculates a value of the collateral using a capitalization method or obtains a current appraisal of the underlying collateral.

Derivative Instruments

The Company is exposed to certain risks relating to its ongoing business operations. The Company's risk of loss is typically limited to the fair value of its derivative instruments and not to the notional or contractual amounts of these derivatives. Risk arises from changes in the fair value of the underlying instruments. Such changes in value are generally offset by opposite changes in the value of the hedged item. For non-exchange traded derivative instruments, the Company is exposed to credit losses in the event of nonperformance of the counterparties. This credit risk is minimized by purchasing such agreements from financial institutions with high credit ratings, daily exchange of collateral, and establishing and monitoring of transfer threshold amounts.

The primary risks managed by using derivative instruments are equity market risk, foreign currency risk and interest rate risk. The most common types of derivatives used by the Company are call options, foreign currency forwards, exchange traded futures, equity total return swaps, interest rate options, and interest rate swaps.

The Company purchases call options to manage the equity and market risk associated with products in which the interest credited is tied to an external equity or other market index. The Company sells FIA policies where interest is credited to policyholders based on a percentage of the gain in a specified market index, which cannot be less than zero. Most of the premium received is invested in fixed income securities and a portion is used to purchase derivatives, typically call options, consisting of a range of maturities up to five years to fund the index credits due to the FIA policyholders. On the applicable anniversary dates of the FIA, the market index used to compute the index credits is reset and new call options are purchased to fund the next index credit. These call options are highly correlated to the portfolio allocations of the policyholders, such that the Company is economically hedged with respect to equity and/or market returns for the period covering the current policyholder crediting period.

The Company uses foreign currency forwards to reduce the risk from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates associated with its assets and expected asset cash flows denominated in foreign currencies. In a foreign currency forward transaction, the Company agrees with another party to deliver a specified amount of an identified currency at a specified future date. The price is agreed upon at the time of the contract and payment for such a contract is made in a different currency at the specified future date. No cash is exchanged at the time the agreement is entered into. The Company uses foreign currency forwards to hedge the spot rates associated with its assets denominated in foreign currencies (“fair value FX hedge”).

The Company uses interest rate swaps and interest rate options to reduce market risks from changes in interest rates and to manage interest rate exposure arising from duration mismatches between assets and liabilities. In a swap, the Company agrees with counterparties to exchange, at specified intervals, the difference between fixed rate and floating rate interest amounts calculated by reference to an agreed notional amount. The Company uses interest rate swaps to synthetically convert fixed rate liabilities to floating rate liabilities (together with fair value FX hedges, “fair value hedges”). The Company also uses interest rate swaps to synthetically convert variable rate coupons on existing financial instruments to fixed rates (“cash flow hedge”).

The Company’s accounting for the ongoing changes in fair value of a derivative depends on the use of the derivative and whether it is designated in a hedge accounting relationship. Derivatives designated as fair value hedges and which are determined to be highly effective hedges are reported in the same consolidated statement of operations line item that is used to report the earnings effect of the hedged item. Derivatives that are designated for cash flow hedging and determined to be highly effective hedges are reported at fair value as a component of OCI. At the time when the variability of cash flows being hedged impact net income, the related portion of the deferred gain or loss on the derivative is reclassified and reported in net income. For derivatives which either do not qualify or are not designated for hedge accounting, all changes in fair value are reported in net income.

Liabilities

The Company’s liability for policy reserves and annuity account values increased to \$46.5 billion at March 31, 2025, from \$45.4 billion at December 31, 2024, primarily due to 2024 annuity sales. Most of the Company’s annuity products have a surrender charge and market value adjustment features designed to reduce the risk of early withdrawal or surrender of the policies. Notwithstanding these policy features, the withdrawal rates of policyholder funds may be affected by changes in interest rates and other factors. The Company believes that annuity policies with GLWB riders are less likely to be surrendered, and 81% of the out of surrender charge category have a GLWB rider. Based on account value, 82% of the Company’s annuity policies have surrender charge of at least three-years or an income rider. The following table presents the Company’s fixed annuity and FIA liabilities existing surrender charge protection as of March 31, 2025.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| 5 or more years | 39 % |
| 3-4 years | 14 % |
| Less than 3 years | 22 % |
| Out-of-surrender charge with income rider | 20 % |
| Out-of-surrender charge without income rider | 5 % |
| Total | <u>100 %</u> |

The Company’s funds withheld and held liabilities were \$10,019.7 million and \$9,514.7 million at March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, respectively. The increase is due to additional ceded business to SkyRidge Re in the first quarter of 2025 of approximately \$500.0 million. These liabilities are maintained in accordance with the Company’s funds withheld reinsurance agreements to contractually secure the ceded statutory reserves. A corresponding investment portfolio is separately maintained and recorded as part of the Company’s investment portfolio. A separate reinsurance recoverable asset is reflected on the consolidated balance sheets for the ceded GAAP reserves.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Liquidity for Insurance Operations

The Company’s primary sources of cash are annuity deposits, investment income, and proceeds from the sale, maturity, pay down and redemption of investments. The primary uses of cash are investment purchases, payments to policyholders in connection with surrenders and withdrawals, policy acquisition costs, interest expense, preferred stock dividends and other operating expenses. The Company also has multiple sources of additional liquidity, including additional sources of institutional

funding, retail funding, contractual cash flows from the asset portfolio, and sales of investment assets. The Company has liquidity risk policies and guidelines for the management of the aggregate liquidity risk of the Company.

Liquidity requirements are met primarily by funds provided from cash flow from annuity deposits and investment income. Annuity liabilities are generally long-term in nature. However, a primary liquidity concern is the risk of an extraordinary level of early policyholder withdrawals. The Company includes provisions within its annuity policies, such as surrender charges and market value adjustments, that help limit and provide an economic disincentive to early withdrawals. At March 31, 2025, approximately 71% of FIA, fixed annuity, and fixed option of variable annuity account value, net of reinsurance, was subject to a charge upon surrender, with a weighted average remaining surrender charge period of 3.8 years and a weighted average surrender charge percentage of 5.4%. The weighted average life of the Company's annuity policies in force as of March 31, 2025, was 8.55 years. The weighted average life of the Company's fixed and FIA policies as of March 31, 2025, was 8.51 years. The weighted average life of new annuity policies written during the three months ended March 31, 2025, was 7.93 years. The surrender charge level excludes market value adjustments and premium bonus recapture.

Liquidity

As of March 31, 2025, SBLH on a standalone basis had \$29.3 million in unrestricted cash available to pay long-term obligations. The Company had no contributions to its subsidiary, SBLIC, for the three months ended March 31, 2025 and for the year ended December 31, 2024. Neither SBLH nor any of its affiliates has any obligation to make any future capital contributions to SBLIC.

As of March 31, 2025, the Company had no outstanding borrowings on its Revolving Credit Facility of \$1.0 billion. As of that date, the Company could incur an additional \$768.1 million of debt while maintaining debt leverage at 25%, and \$1,060.0 million while maintaining financial leverage (debt and preferred stock) at 35%.

SBLIC's membership in the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka ("FHLB") allows the Company to borrow through various financial instruments, including but not limited to, funding and repurchase agreements tied to the variable short-term Federal Funds rate (4.33% at March 31, 2025). These borrowings provide additional liquidity for the Company. Borrowings are secured by eligible collateral pledged, primarily government and agency securities, to FHLB by the Company. As of March 31, 2025, the Company has issued no funding agreements with the FHLB. As of March 31, 2025, the total maximum borrowing capacity under the FHLB facilities was \$368.3 million. As of December 31, 2024, the Company had no outstanding borrowings with FHLB.

The Company uses repurchase agreements (which may be executed bilaterally or in tri-party form) as a form of institutional borrowing as a tool to manage liquidity. When engaging in repurchase agreements, the Company must receive net cash in an amount equal to or greater than 95% of the market value of the collateral provided. The value of the collateral is required to be marked to market daily and timely receipt/delivery of additional cash/collateral must be made to maintain the 95% minimum cash/collateralization ratio.

As of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, the payables for repurchase agreements were \$343.4 million and \$328.4 million, respectively. The fair values of securities held by the counterparties backing the repurchase agreements as of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, were \$360.4 million and \$344.7 million, respectively. The Company has \$2.1 billion and 2.0 billion in committed repurchase facilities with various counterparties as of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, respectively. The Company has \$3.3 billion in uncommitted repurchase facilities with various counterparties as of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024. As of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, the Company had no outstanding payables under the uncommitted repurchase facilities.

The amount of dividends that SBLIC can pay to SBLH is restricted under applicable insurance laws and regulations. For 2025, the maximum amount of ordinary dividends that SBLIC could pay under applicable laws and regulations is the greater of (i) 10% of surplus as regards policyholders as of December 31, 2024, and (ii) its net gain from operations, not including realized capital gains for the 12-month period ended December 31, 2024, although ordinary dividends can only be paid from earned surplus (sometimes referred to as "unassigned surplus"). The greater of (i) and (ii) above is \$1,168.0 million for 2025. The ordinary dividend capacity in 2024 was \$1,156.0 million. The ordinary dividend capacity is reduced by dividends paid in the prior twelve months. SBLIC paid a \$50.0 million dividend on May 9, 2024 and declared another \$400.0 million (in-kind) dividend on May 17, 2024. Of the in-kind dividends declared on May 17, 2024, \$123.1 million was paid on June 27, 2024. The remaining \$276.9 million was paid on July 1, 2024. In addition SBLIC paid dividends of \$30.0 million on August 15, 2024, \$50.0 million on November 12, 2024 and \$350.0 million on March 18, 2025. Accordingly, because of the prior

dividends that have been paid, SBLIC's remaining ordinary dividend capacity at March 31, 2025 was \$288.0 million, which all other things being equal, will increase to \$818.0 million on November 12, 2025. SBLIC can seek approval to pay dividends in excess of these permitted amounts, but there can be no assurance that it would receive regulatory approval if sought.

In May 2021, SBLIC established a \$2.0 billion program for a trust, Security Benefit Global Funding, to periodically issue funding agreement backed notes ("FABNs"). Security Benefit Global Funding is not an affiliate or related party of the Company. These notes are backed by funding agreements issued by SBLIC to the trust. In May 2021, the trust issued its first series of 1.250% Fixed Rate Notes in the principal amount of \$500.0 million. These fixed rate notes matured on May 17, 2024, as did the related funding agreement. No other series of FABNs have been issued.

The annual dividend rate on the Company's 7.000% Fixed-Rate Reset Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series A has reset to 9.508% for five years of future dividend periods as provided in the Series A terms. The reset rate, as determined on May 9, 2025, is based on a benchmark of five-year U.S. Treasury yields to maturity plus a spread of 5.580%. The Series A dividend rate has been 7.000% since the shares were issued in 2020, and the 7.000% rate applied to the dividend paid on May 13, 2025. The new 9.508% rate will first apply to the dividend period that runs from May to November 2025, relating to the November 13, 2025 dividend payment date. The new rate will continue to apply to dividend periods through May 2030.

Company NRSRO Ratings

The Company meets at least annually with its rating agencies to update them on its business. The ratings agencies may take action on the Company's ratings after such meetings, or at any other time.

On January 16, 2025, A.M. Best affirmed its "A-" financial strength rating on SBLIC. The A.M. Best outlook is stable.

On September 25, 2024, S&P affirmed its ratings on SBLIC (issuer credit rating and financial strength rating of "A-") and SBLH (issuer credit rating of "BBB-", senior unsecured rating of "BBB-" and preferred stock rating of "BB"). Each S&P outlook is stable.

On September 10, 2024, Morningstar DBRS ("DBRS") affirmed its "A" financial strength rating on SBLIC. In addition, it affirmed its "BBB (high)" and "BBB (low)" ratings on SBLH's senior unsecured notes and non-cumulative preferred stock, respectively. The DBRS trends are stable.

On August 27, 2024, Fitch affirmed its "A-" financial strength rating on SBLIC. It also affirmed its "BBB" issuer credit rating, its "BBB-" senior unsecured rating and its "BB" preferred stock rating on SBLH. Each Fitch outlook is stable.

Long-Term Debt and Future Principal Payments

The Company had outstanding senior notes with a carrying value of \$1,579.1 million and \$1,577.8 at March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, respectively. They consisted of \$374.5 million with a fixed interest rate of 5.125% and a maturity date of November 2026, \$579.4 million with a fixed interest rate of 5.000% and a maturity date of February 2031, and \$650.0 million with a fixed interest rate of 7.200% and a maturity date of October 2034 which was reopened in April 2025 and an additional \$100.0 million was issued. Debt issuance costs are capitalized and reported as a reduction of the debt balances on the consolidated balance sheets and amortized over the term of the debt.

The Company had outstanding surplus notes with a carrying value of \$112.9 million and \$113.2 million at March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024, respectively. The surplus notes consist of \$100.0 million of 7.450% notes issued by SBLIC in October 2003, and maturing on October 1, 2033. The surplus notes are subject to repayment conditions and restrictions, whereby each payment of interest or principal on the surplus notes may be made only with the prior approval of the Kansas Insurance Commissioner and only out of surplus that the Kansas Insurance Commissioner determines to be available for such payment under the Kansas Insurance Code.

The Company has a credit agreement with a syndicate of lenders that provides the Revolving Credit Facility, which has a total capacity of \$1.0 billion. Each draw under the Revolving Credit Facility has a maturity date of August 2027 and an interest rate of SOFR plus 1.975%. The Company did not have a balance outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility as of March 31, 2025. Debt issuance costs are capitalized and reported as a reduction of the debt balances on the consolidated

balance sheets and amortized over the term of the debt. The Revolving Credit Facility has various affirmative and negative covenants.

The Company also has a credit agreement with a syndicate of lenders to provide a delayed draw term loan facility (the “DDTL Facility”). No additional draws may be made under the DDTL Facility. Each draw has a maturity date of August 30, 2025 and an interest rate of SOFR plus 3.100%. The Company had an outstanding balance of \$2.4 million under the DDTL Facility as of March 31, 2025. Debt issuance costs were capitalized and reported as a reduction of the debt balances on the consolidated balance sheets and amortized over the term of the debt. The credit agreement has various affirmative and negative covenants similar to those in the Revolving Credit Facility.

At March 31, 2025, future principal payments for the years ended December 31 were as follows.

| | Senior Notes | Delayed Draw | |
|---|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| | | Term Loan | Surplus Notes |
| | | <i>(unaudited)</i> | |
| | | <i>(dollars in thousands)</i> | |
| 2025 | \$ — | 2,375 | \$ — |
| 2026 | 374,457 | — | — |
| 2027 | — | — | — |
| 2028 | — | — | — |
| 2029 | — | — | — |
| Thereafter | 1,229,426 | — | 100,000 |
| Total amount of future principal payments | \$ 1,603,883 | \$ 2,375 | \$ 100,000 |

Contractual Obligations

In connection with the Company’s investments in certain limited partnerships, the Company committed to invest additional capital of \$483.7 million, of which \$117.3 million was with related parties, at March 31, 2025, as required by the general partner compared to \$493.9 million and \$7.9 million at December 31, 2024. The Company had committed up to \$4,529.9 million and \$3,934.9 million in unfunded bridge loans, unfunded revolvers, and other private investments, of which \$1,775.9 million and \$1,762.0 million is with related parties or securitizations in which related parties act as collateral managers, as of March 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024 respectively. The portion of the total unfunded commitments that are considered to be on-demand funding obligations not controlled by the Company or its affiliated parties was \$1,979.5 million as of March 31, 2025. As per the Company’s liquidity guidelines, the Company maintains sufficient liquidity capacity to fund the segment of the total unfunded commitments that are considered to be on-demand funding obligations not controlled by the Company or its affiliated parties.

Other Legal and Regulatory Matters

SBLIC is a defendant in a putative class action, Ella Clinton, et al., v. Security Benefit Life Insurance Company, initially filed in the United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, on November 20, 2019. A First Amended Class Action Complaint (“FAC”) that includes additional named plaintiffs and causes of action was filed on January 21, 2020. The action was transferred to the United States District Court, District of Kansas. The allegations of the FAC arise out of the marketing and sale of SBLIC’s leading FIA products at the time. In their FAC, Plaintiffs assert claims for violation of the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, violations of California’s, Illinois’, and Arizona’s respective unfair competition, consumer fraud, and/or deceptive business practices acts, and common law fraud under the laws of Florida, California, Illinois, and Arizona. SBLIC’s motion to dismiss was granted by the District Court on February 12, 2021, but the dismissal was reversed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit on March 28, 2023 in a split decision, and SBLIC’s request for a rehearing *en banc* was denied. The Tenth Circuit’s decision to reverse and remand the case was not based on the merits of any issue; on the contrary, the applicable Federal Rules of Civil Procedure required the Court to assume the truth of Plaintiffs’ allegations and to view the facts in a light most favorable to Plaintiffs. The issues will be decided on an evidentiary record established at the District Court level. On February 7, 2025, the District Court issued an amended scheduling order setting a June 13, 2025, deadline for Plaintiffs’ motion for class certification, an August 15, 2025, deadline for SBLIC’s opposition to the motion for class certification and an October 17, 2025, deadline for Plaintiffs’ reply in support of the motion for class certification. Following the District Court’s order that mediation occur no later than June 6, 2025, the parties met in person on May 22, 2025 to start a mediation process. Although potential liability is reasonably possible for SBLIC from this

lawsuit, no reasonable estimate can be made at this time regarding the amount or range of any possible loss that may result. SBLIC believes that it has substantial defenses to the claims alleged and intends to continue to defend itself vigorously in the lawsuit.

In addition, the Company is periodically party to legal and arbitral proceedings and subject to complaints and the like, and is periodically examined by its regulators and may discuss certain subjects with its regulators that come up during such examinations or otherwise. Management currently does not believe that any of the foregoing matters in this paragraph will, alone or collectively, materially adversely affect the Company's results of operations or financial condition. In addition, the Company is subject to extensive regulation by, among others, governmental authorities and the NAIC, and it is subject to the effects of periodic changes in laws, regulations, and other standards that apply to it.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Other than the contractual obligations described above, the Company has not entered into any significant off-balance sheet arrangements.

Critical Accounting Policies

The Company has identified the following critical accounting policies as being those that are complex and require significant judgment. The following summary of such critical accounting policies is intended to enhance your ability to assess the Company's financial condition and results of operations and the potential volatility due to changes in estimates.

Valuation of Investments

GAAP defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (exit price) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Company categorizes its investments into three levels of fair value hierarchy based on the priority of inputs used in determining fair value. The hierarchy defines the highest priority inputs (Level 1) as quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. The lowest priority inputs (Level 3) are the Company's own assumptions about what a market participant would use in determining fair value such as estimated future cash flows. In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, a financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Company's assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the financial instrument. The Company's policy is to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when developing fair value measurements.

In accordance with ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements*, the Company groups its financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value in three levels based on the inputs and assumptions used to determine the fair value. The levels are as follows:

Level 1 - Valuations are based upon unadjusted quoted prices for identical instruments traded in active markets.

Level 2 - Valuations are based upon quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active, model-based valuation techniques for which significant assumptions are observable in the market, and option pricing models using inputs observable in the market.

Level 3 - Valuations are generated from techniques that use significant assumptions not observable in the market. These unobservable assumptions reflect the Company's assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. Valuation techniques include discounted cash flow models, spread-based models and similar techniques, using the best information available in the circumstances.

Management's assessment of all available data when determining fair value of the Company's investments is necessary to appropriately apply fair value accounting. See "Financial Condition – Assets and Liabilities Measured and Reported at Fair Value" for additional information about the scope of investments recorded at fair value.

Evaluation of Allowance for Credit Losses on Fixed Maturity Available for Sale Investments and Mortgage Loan Portfolio

The methodology used to determine incurred loss impairment for loans and other financial instruments was replaced by a methodology that reflects expected credit losses, and which requires the Company to consider a broader range of reasonable and supportable details when determining expected credit losses.

The evaluation of fixed maturity available for sale investments for credit loss involves significant judgment and estimates by management. The Company reviews and analyzes all fixed maturity available for sale investments on an ongoing basis for changes in market interest rates and credit deterioration. This review process includes analyzing the Company's ability to recover the cost basis of each fixed maturity investment that has a fair value that is materially lower than its cost basis. It requires a high degree of management judgment and involves uncertainty. The evaluation of fixed maturity investments for credit loss is a quantitative and qualitative process, which is subject to risks and uncertainties.

The Company has a policy and process in place to identify fixed maturity investments that could potentially have a credit loss. The Company considers relevant facts and circumstances in evaluating whether the impairment of a security is credit related. Relevant facts and circumstances considered include but are not limited to (1) changes in the financial position and access to capital of the issuer, including the current and future impact of any specific events; (2) the Company's intent to sell a security or whether it is more likely than not the Company will be required to sell the security before the recovery of its amortized cost basis; and (3) in the evaluation of the potential impairment of ABS, including CLOs, several factors are taken into account, including cash flow, collateral sufficiency, liquidity and economic conditions. For fixed maturity investments, the Company recognizes the difference between the amortized cost and fair value in net income if it intends to sell the security or it is more likely than not it will be required to sell the security before the recovery of the amortized cost basis. For fixed maturity investments that the Company does not expect to recover the amortized cost basis and does not plan to sell, and for which it is not more likely than not that it would be required to sell the security before recovery of the amortized cost basis, a credit loss allowance would be established on the security and recognized in net income. The difference between the present value of expected future cash flows and the amortized cost basis of the security is the amount of credit loss recognized. The recognized credit loss is limited to the total unrealized loss on the security.

The credit loss component of ABS, including CLOs, is estimated as the difference between amortized cost and the present value of the expected cash flows of the security. The methodology and assumptions for establishing the best estimate cash flows vary depending on the type of security. For fixed rate investments, the present value is determined using the best estimate cash flows discounted at the effective interest rate implicit to the security just prior to impairment. For variable rate investments, the present value is determined using the best estimate cash flows discounted at the variable rate that exists as of the date the cash flow estimate is made. The ABS, including CLOs, cash flow estimates are based on bond-specific facts and circumstances that may include collateral characteristics, expectations of delinquency and default rates, loss severity, prepayment speeds, and structural support, including subordination and guarantees.

The Company has established an allowance to provide for the risk of credit losses inherent in its commercial mortgage loan portfolio. The allowance for each of the Company's commercial mortgage loans for which the borrower is not under common control is estimated by utilizing third-party modeling software to derive probability of default and loss given default assumptions based on the characteristics of each loan, historical economic and loss information, and current and forecasted economic conditions. Key loan characteristics impacting the estimate for the Company's commercial mortgage loan portfolio include factors such as loan-to-value ratio, debt service coverage ratio, property type and location, and origination year. In addition, the Company reviews commercial mortgage loans for which the borrower is under common control for the need for a general allowance for probable losses on a quantitative and qualitative basis. The amount of the general loan allowance is based upon management's evaluation of the collectability of the loan portfolio.

Policy Liabilities for Fixed Index Annuities

The Company offers or maintains FIAs with crediting strategies linked to 19 different indices that are either equity only or multi-asset. The Company purchases derivatives, primarily call and call spread options, on the applicable indices as an investment to provide the income needed to fund the index credits on the index products. See "Financial Condition — Derivative Instruments." Certain derivative instruments embedded in the FIA contracts are recognized in the consolidated balance sheets at their fair values and changes in fair value are recognized immediately in the Company's consolidated statements of operations in accordance with accounting standards for derivative instruments, since the embedded derivative is not clearly or closely related to the economic characteristics of the host contract.

Accounting for derivatives prescribes that the contractual obligations for future index credits are treated as a “series of embedded derivatives” over the expected life of the applicable contracts. Policy liabilities for FIAs are equal to the sum of the “host” (or guaranteed) component, the embedded derivative component and the fixed account value for each FIA policy. The host value is established at inception of the contract and accreted over the policy’s life at a constant rate of interest. The Company estimates the fair value of the embedded derivative component at each valuation date by (i) projecting policy contract values and minimum guaranteed contract values over the expected lives of the contracts and (ii) discounting the excess of the projected contract values over the projected minimum guaranteed contract values at the applicable risk-free interest rates adjusted for the Company’s nonperformance risk related to those liabilities. The projections of policy contract values are based on the Company’s best estimate assumptions for future policy growth and future policy decrements. The Company’s best estimate assumptions for future policy growth include assumptions for the expected index credits at the end of the index crediting periods which are derived from the fair values of the underlying call options purchased to fund such index credits and the expected costs of annual call options the Company will purchase in the future to fund index credits beyond the end of the current index crediting periods. The projections of minimum guaranteed contract values include the same best estimate assumptions for policy decrements as were used to project policy contract values.

In general, the change in the fair value of the embedded derivatives will correspond to, but not exactly match, the change in fair value of the purchased call options because the purchased call options are either one year, two year, or five year options depending upon the crediting strategy in the product while the options valued in the embedded derivatives represent the rights of the contract holder to receive index credits over the entire period the FIAs are expected to be in force. See “Consolidated Results of Operations- Investment-related gains (losses)” for additional information.

The Company offers guarantees on its FIA contracts for the benefit of the annuity contract holder. The primary guarantees offered to FIA contract holders are GMDB and GLWB riders. The Company’s GMDB and GLWB reserves, accounted for pursuant to Financial Accounting Standards Board ASC 944, Financial Services-Insurance, are equal to the current benefit ratio multiplied by the cumulative assessments less cumulative excess death and income benefit payments plus accrued interest. The current benefit ratio is equal to the present value of actual and expected excess payments divided by the present value of actual and expected assessments.

As of March 2020, the Company ceased accepting applications for substantially all FIA contracts with GMDB and GLWB riders, although there are outstanding blocks of policies with such riders.

Policy Liabilities for Fixed and Variable Annuities

Liabilities for future policy benefits for fixed annuities and the fixed account on variable deferred annuity products represent contract values accumulated at interest without reduction for potential surrender charges. Interest on accumulated contract values is credited to contracts as earned. For the separate account on variable annuities the investment income and gains and losses on investments accrue directly to, and investment risk is borne by, the contract holder.

Associated with these variable annuity contracts, the Company provides guarantees for the benefit of the annuity contract holder. The primary guarantees provided to variable annuity contract holders are GMDB, GMAB, GMWB, and guaranteed minimum income benefits (“GMIB”). The Company’s GMDB and GMIB reserves, accounted for pursuant to ASC 944, Financial Services-Insurance, are equal to the current benefit ratio multiplied by the cumulative assessments less cumulative excess death and income benefit payments plus accrued interest. The current benefit ratio is equal to the present value of actual and expected excess payments divided by the present value of actual and expected assessments. Separate benefit ratios are maintained for GMDB and GMIB. The Company records guarantees for GMAB and GMWB as derivative instruments. The fair value of the obligation is calculated based on actuarial and capital market assumptions related to the projected cash flows, including benefits and related contract charges, over the anticipated life of the related contracts. The cash flow estimates are produced using stochastic techniques under a variety of market return scenarios and other best estimate assumptions.

As of February 2010, the Company ceased issuing variable annuity contracts with GMAB, GMWB, and GMIB riders, although there is an outstanding block of policies with such riders.

Policy Liabilities for Funding Agreements

General account funding agreement liabilities, which have a balance of \$514.6 million at March 31, 2025, consist of fixed interest rate contracts and are held at contract value. These funding agreements have call provisions that allow the holder the right to put the agreement back to the Company if certain adverse conditions occur.

Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs, Deferred Sales Inducement Costs, and Value of Business Acquired

Costs relating to the production of successful new or renewal business have been deferred and capitalized as DAC or DSI. Only costs which are expected to be recovered from future policy revenues and gross profits may be deferred.

DAC and DSI are subject to loss recognition testing periodically or when an event occurs that may warrant loss recognition. DAC consists principally of commissions and certain costs of policy issuance. DSI consists of premium and interest bonuses credited to policyholder account balances.

For annuity products, these costs are amortized generally in proportion to expected gross profits from interest margins and, to a lesser extent, from product charges. Current and future period gross profits/margins for FIAs also include the impact of amounts recorded for the change in fair value of derivatives and the change in fair value of embedded derivatives. Current period amortization is adjusted retrospectively through an unlocking process when estimates of current or future gross profits/margins (including the impact of realized investment gains and losses) to be realized from a group of products are revised. The Company's estimates of future gross profits/margins are based on actuarial assumptions related to the underlying policies' terms, lives of the policies, yield on investments supporting the liabilities, and level of expenses necessary to maintain the policies over their entire lives. Revisions are made based on historical results and the Company's best estimates of future experience.

Deferred Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes using the liability method. This method provides for the tax effects of transactions reported in the consolidated financial statements for both taxes currently due and deferred. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are determined based on differences between the financial reporting and income tax bases of assets and liabilities and are measured using the enacted tax rates and laws. A temporary difference is a transaction, or amount of a transaction, that is recognized currently for financial reporting purposes but will not be recognized for tax purposes until a future tax period, or is recognized currently for tax purposes but will not be recognized for financial reporting purposes until a future reporting period. Deferred income taxes are measured by applying enacted tax rates for the years in which the temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled to the amount of each temporary difference.

Deferred income tax expense or benefit, reflected in the Company's consolidated statements of operations as a component of income tax expense, is based on the changes in deferred income tax assets or liabilities from period to period (excluding unrealized capital gains and losses on securities available for sale).

Deferred income tax assets are subject to ongoing evaluation of whether such assets will be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred income tax assets depends on generating future taxable income during the periods in which temporary differences become deductible. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance if, based on the weight of evidence, it is more likely than not that a portion, or all, of the deferred income tax asset will not be realized. Significant judgment and use of estimates are required in determining whether valuation allowances should be established, as well as the amount of such allowances. When making such determination, consideration is given to, among other things, the following:

- future taxable income of the necessary character exclusive of reversing temporary differences and carryforwards;
- future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences;
- taxable income in prior carryback years; and
- tax planning strategies.

Actual realization of deferred income tax assets and liabilities may materially differ from these estimates as a result of changes in tax laws as well as unanticipated future transactions impacting related income tax balances.

The realization of deferred tax assets related to unrealized loss on the Company's available for sale fixed maturity securities is based on the Company's ability and intent to hold the securities for a period of time sufficient to allow for recovery of the value.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-12, Financial Services-Insurance (Topic 944) Targeted Improvements to the Accounting for Long-Duration Contracts, which changes the measurement and disclosures of insurance liabilities and deferred acquisition costs (“DAC”) for long-duration contracts issued by insurers. The standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024, and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2025. The transition date (the remeasurement date) is January 1, 2023. The ultimate effects the standard will have on the financial statements are highly dependent on policyholder behavior, actuarial assumptions and macroeconomic conditions, particularly interest rates and spreads. However, we estimate the impact from adoption of this standard will increase total stockholders’ equity as of the transition date, January 1, 2023, up to approximately \$670.0 million, net of tax. The transition adjustment is expected to primarily increase retained earnings. The most significant drivers of this transition adjustment include:

- (i) the measurement of certain benefits historically recorded as insurance liabilities which will now be classified and measured as market risk benefits (“MRB”), along with their subsequent changes in fair value, excluding changes attributable to instrument-specific credit risk, which are recorded as a component of other comprehensive income (“OCI”), and;
- (ii) the removal of prior period “shadow” DAC adjustments in accumulated other comprehensive income (“AOCI”).

The specific impacts on retained earnings and OCI upon adoption of this standard on January 1, 2025 may also differ materially from the transition impact based on the performance of the Company’s business and macroeconomic conditions, including changes in interest rates.

After adoption of this standard on January 1, 2025, the Company’s annual financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2025 will reflect the impact on various amounts in the financial statements from the transition date of January 1, 2023, through the year ended December 31, 2025. The specific impacts to the annual financial statements for each of the three years ended December 31, 2025, may differ materially from the transition impacts mentioned above based on the performance of the Company’s business and macroeconomic conditions, including changes in interest rates. This is only a GAAP concept and does not impact Statutory reporting.

Market Risk

The Company seeks to invest its available funds in a manner that will maximize shareholder value and fund future obligations to policyholders and creditors, subject to appropriate risk considerations. The Company seeks to meet this objective through investments that: (1) consist substantially of investment grade fixed maturity investments; (2) have projected returns which satisfy its spread targets; and (3) have characteristics which support the underlying liabilities. Many of the Company’s products incorporate surrender charges, market value adjustments, or other features to encourage persistency.

The Company seeks to maximize the total return on its available for sale investments through active investment management. Accordingly, the Company has determined that its available for sale portfolio of fixed maturity investments is available to be sold in response to: (i) changes in market interest rates; (ii) changes in relative values of individual investments and asset sectors; (iii) changes in prepayment risks; (iv) changes in credit quality outlook for certain investments; (v) liquidity needs; and (vi) other factors. A loss in net income equal to the difference between amortized cost and fair value will be recorded when the Company intends to sell an available for sale investment in an unrealized loss position. If the Company does not intend to sell a debt security, it considers all available evidence to make an assessment of whether it is more likely than not that it will be required to sell the security before the recovery of its amortized cost basis. If it is more likely than not that the Company will be required to sell the security before recovery of its amortized cost basis, a loss in net income equal to the difference between amortized cost and fair value will be recognized.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is considered to be one of the Company’s primary risk exposures. Substantial and sustained increases and decreases in market interest rates can affect the profitability of the Company’s products and the fair value of its investments. The profitability of many of the Company’s products depends on the spreads between interest yield on investments and rates credited on insurance liabilities. The Company has the ability to adjust crediting rates (caps, participation rates or spreads for index annuities) on a substantial portion of its annuity liabilities every two years, as most of the Company’s business is within two years of credit reset (subject to minimum guaranteed values). In addition, substantially all of the

Company's annuity products have surrender charge provisions designed to encourage persistency and to help ensure targeted spreads are earned. However, competitive factors, including the impact of the level of surrenders and withdrawals, may limit the Company's ability to adjust or maintain crediting rates at levels necessary to avoid narrowing of spreads under certain market conditions.

The Company seeks to manage interest rate risk through structuring its investment portfolios to align investment types (*i.e.*, fixed and floating) and yield values with corresponding liabilities portfolios (*i.e.*, FIA and fixed). The Company periodically rebalances the assets and liability portfolios by evaluating the adequacy of expected cash flows from its assets to meet the expected cash requirements of its liabilities and to determine if it is necessary to lengthen or shorten the average life and duration of the Company's investment portfolio.

Assuming a 100 bps parallel increase in interest rates that persists for a 12-month period, from levels as of March 31, 2025, the estimated impact to operating income would be an increase of approximately \$74.0 million. A decrease of 100 bps is estimated to decrease operating income by \$74.0 million. These changes are driven by increases or decreases in investment income from floating rate assets, offset by DAC, DSI, and Voba amortization and rider reserve change, all calculated without regard to future changes to assumptions.

Assuming an immediate 100 bps parallel increase in interest rates from levels as of March 31, 2025, the estimated impact to AOCI would be a decrease of approximately \$366.0 million. A decrease of 100 bps is estimated to increase AOCI by \$365.8 million. The estimated point in time impact is driven by a net increase or decrease in the value of the Company's available for sale fixed maturity investments which are carried at fair value with unrealized gains and losses, net of certain offsets, reported in AOCI. The estimated changes include the impact of related amortization of deferred revenue and expenses and related rider reserve change.

The models used to estimate the impact of a 100 bps change in market interest rates incorporate numerous assumptions, require significant estimates and assume an immediate and parallel change in interest rates without any management action to counteract such a change. Consequently, potential changes in the Company's valuations indicated by the simulations will likely be different from the actual changes experienced under given interest rate scenarios, and the differences may be material. Because the Company actively manages its investments and liabilities, its net exposure to interest rates can vary over time. However, any such decreases in the fair value of the Company's fixed maturity investments (unless related to credit concerns of the issuer requiring establishment of a credit loss allowance) would generally be realized only if it were required to sell such investments at losses prior to their maturity to meet the Company's liquidity needs, which it seeks to manage using the surrender and withdrawal provisions of its annuity contracts and through other means.

The Company purchases call options on the applicable indices or replicates the option payoff through the use of other derivative instruments, to fund the index credits on its FIAs. These options generally match the term of the index credits (generally ranging from one to five years) of the underlying policies. Proceeds associated with those investments are substantially offset by an increase or decrease in the amounts added to policyholder account balances for FIA products. For the three months ended March 31, 2025 and 2024, the index credits to policyholders at the end of their index crediting period were \$286.4 million and \$210.0 million, respectively. Proceeds received at expiration or termination of these options used to hedge such index credits were \$275.3 million and \$216.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively. Index credits of \$71.1 million and \$43.2 million were ceded to SkyRidge under reinsurance agreements during the three months ended March 31, 2025 and March 31, 2024, respectively. SBLH holds call options for the business reinsured with SkyRidge Re and charges SkyRidge Re for those call options on a quarterly basis. Those call option proceeds will not exactly match index credits primarily due to the use of futures and total return swaps to hedge a portion of the index credit obligations, selling of certain options prior to expiration in order to purchase better priced options, the use of futures and total return swaps to reduce hedged positions for partial and full withdrawals, and policyholder surrenders.

At the end of the crediting period of the index crediting strategies, the Company purchases new one-year, two-year, and five-year call options to fund the next period's expected index credits. The risk associated with these prospective purchases of call options is the uncertainty of the cost, which is a significant determining factor in whether the Company is able to earn its spread on its FIA business. The Company seeks to manage this risk through the terms of its FIAs, which permit the Company to change caps, participation rates, and index crediting spreads. By modifying caps, participation rates, or index crediting spreads, the Company can limit option costs to budgeted amounts, except in cases where the contractual features would prevent further modifications. The Company also makes use of volatility-controlled indices to help ensure the cost of call options purchased in the future will be within its pricing assumptions. Based upon actuarial testing which the Company conducts as a part of the

design of its FIA products and on an ongoing basis, the Company believes the risk that current contractual features would prevent it from controlling option costs is not material.

The Company performs sensitivity analysis to assess the impact that certain assumptions and equity market shocks have in determining the policy liabilities and the amortization of DAC/DSI/VOBA for the Company's FIAs. The following table presents the estimated impact to GAAP income, before income taxes, of equity market shocks and various assumption changes that affect the Company's FIAs. The effects presented are not representative of the aggregate impacts that would result if a combination of changes in equity markets, interest rates, and other assumptions occurred.

| Equity Market Shock/Assumption Change | Change in Fair Value of FIA Derivatives | Reserve Change ^(a) | DAC/DSI/VOBA Amortization Change | Statement of Operations Impact as of March 31, 2025 |
|--|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | | | (unaudited) | |
| | | | (dollars in thousands) | |
| Decrease in equity index by 5% (2.5% for low volatility indices) | \$ (285,849) | \$ (108,137) | \$ (24,997) | (152,715) |
| Increase in equity index by 5% (2.5% for low volatility indices) | 294,551 | 112,554 | 25,424 | 156,573 |
| Decrease in discount rate by 100 bps | | 199,836 | (131,019) | (68,817) |
| Increase in discount rate by 100 bps | | (177,906) | 120,186 | 57,720 |
| Decrease in long-term portfolio yields by 50 bps | | 151,754 | (27,130) | (124,624) |
| Increase in long-term portfolio yields by 50 bps | | (142,783) | 28,807 | 113,976 |

^(a) Reserve changes based on ASC Topic 815, *Derivatives and Hedging* and ASC Topic 944, *Financial Services-Insurance*.

In general, decreases in equity markets result in a decrease to income before income taxes. The decrease in fair value of the FIA derivatives is partially offset by decreases in policy reserves and a decrease to DAC/DSI/VOBA amortization. In contrast, increases in equity markets result in an increase to income before income taxes. The increase in fair value of the FIA derivatives is partially offset by an increase in policy reserves and an increase in DAC/DSI/VOBA amortization.

In addition, lower discount rates tend to increase future policy reserves and increase the balances of DAC/DSI/VOBA, resulting in a decrease to income before income taxes. Higher discount rates tend to decrease future policy reserves and decrease the balances of DAC/DSI/VOBA, resulting in an increase to income before income taxes.

Lowering the long-term portfolio return assumption tends to increase future policy reserves, thus decreasing income before income taxes. In contrast, increasing the long-term portfolio return assumption decreases future policy reserves, thus increasing income before income taxes.

Credit Risk

In addition to interest rate risk, the Company's investment portfolio is subject to credit risk associated with obligors. The Company attempts to mitigate this risk by adhering to investment policies that provide for portfolio diversification by security types, creditors and industry sectors, and complying with investment codes applicable to the Company pursuant to state law and regulation. The Company actively manages and monitors exposures and records credit loss allowances in periods that such determinations are made. The Company also considers all relevant objective information available in estimating the cash flows related to its portfolios. The Company monitors and manages exposures to determine whether investments are impaired or loans are deemed uncollectible. The aggregate credit risk taken in the Company's investment portfolio is influenced by the risk/return preferences, the economic and credit environment and other considerations.

The Company uses derivative instruments to fund the index credits of the underlying policyholders and executes these derivative instruments with a number of counterparties. The Company's policy is to acquire such options from counterparties rated investment grade by a nationally recognized rating agency. In addition, the Company has entered into credit support agreements which allow it to require posting of collateral by its counterparties to secure their obligations to the Company under the derivative instruments.

The Company also has credit risk related to the reinsurance counterparties' ability to honor their obligations to pay the contracted amounts under various agreements. To minimize the Company's exposure to losses from reinsurer credit and performance risk, the Company evaluates the financial condition of its reinsurers, monitors the concentration of credit risk

arising from similar activities or economic characteristics of such reinsurers, and requires collateralization of balances where allowable by contract.